

Dr. Robert Chisholm, 1 & 2 Samuel, Session 9, 1 Sam. 13-14 – Saul Forfeits a Dynasty, Jonathan's Faith Ignites a Victory, Saul Dilutes a Victory Resources from NotebookLM

1) Abstract, 2) Audio podcast, 3) Briefing Document, 4) Study Guide Quiz, and 5) FAQs

1. Abstract of Chisholm, 1 & 2 Samuel, Session 9, 1 Sam. 13-14 – Saul Forfeits a Dynasty, Jonath's Faith Ignites a Victory, Saul Dilutes a Victory, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL

Dr. Chisholm's lecture explores 1 Samuel 13-14, dividing the narrative into three key sections. **The first section** details Saul's disobedience and subsequent forfeiture of his dynasty. **The second section** highlights Jonathan's faith and courage, which lead to a significant victory against the Philistines. **The final section** examines how Saul's focus on his own honor and strict religious formalism ultimately diminishes the victory. Overall, **the lesson** contrasts Saul's failings with Jonathan's faith, providing insights into leadership, obedience, and the importance of prioritizing God's will.

2. 15 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Chisholm, Session 9 – Double click icon to play in Windows media player or go to the Biblicalelearning.org [BeL] Site and click the audio podcast link there (Old Testament → Historical Books → 1 Samuel).



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3. Briefing Document: Chisholm, 1 & 2 Samuel, Session 9, 1 Sam. 13-14 – Saul Forfeits a Dynasty, Jonath's Faith Ignites a Victory, Saul Dilutes a Victory

Okay, here's a detailed briefing document summarizing the key themes and ideas from the provided excerpt of Dr. Robert Chisholm's lecture on 1 Samuel 13-14:

Briefing Document: 1 Samuel 13-14 - Saul Forfeits Dynasty, Jonathan's Faith, Saul Dilutes Victory

Overview:

This lecture focuses on 1 Samuel 13-14, analyzing Saul's failings as king and contrasting them with Jonathan's faith and actions. The lecture is divided into three main sections:

1. Saul Forfeits a Dynasty (1 Samuel 13:1-15)
2. Jonathan's Faith Ignites a Victory (1 Samuel 13:16 - 14:23)
3. Saul Dilutes a Victory (1 Samuel 14:24-52)

Main Themes and Ideas:

- **Obedience and Blessing:** The lecture emphasizes that obedience to God's word is crucial for security and blessing. Simply having a king (or any other form of leadership) does not guarantee success; both the leader and the people must be obedient. "You will experience security and blessing if you are obedient. Having a king is not a guarantee of security and blessing. You and your king need to obey the Lord."
- **Saul's Disobedience and Forfeiture:** Saul's actions in Chapter 13, specifically offering the burnt offering before Samuel's arrival, are presented as a critical act of disobedience that leads to him forfeiting his dynasty. "God's people can forfeit their privilege and blessing by foolishly disobeying the Lord's Word."
- Chisholm highlights three key flaws in Saul's perspective: (1) reliance on human armies rather than trust in God, (2) elevating ritual over obedience, and (3) usurping Samuel's authority as a prophet-priest.
- Samuel rebukes Saul, stating, "You have done a foolish thing. You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you. If you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time." This emphasizes the potential Saul had and the consequences of his actions.

- **"A Man After God's Own Heart":** The lecture explores the meaning of this phrase in the context of God choosing David to replace Saul. It's not just about arbitrary choice but about choosing someone whose heart and mind are aligned with God's will.
- Chisholm uses Jonathan's armor-bearer's statement, "I am with you according to your heart" (1 Samuel 14:7), as an illustration of this concept, suggesting it signifies complete agreement and alignment of will.
- He also refers to Acts 13:22, where God says of David, "He will do everything I want him to do," further clarifying the meaning of being "after God's own heart."
- **Jonathan's Faith and Victory:** Jonathan is presented as a stark contrast to Saul. His faith in God's power, demonstrated by his daring attack on the Philistine outpost with only his armor-bearer, is the catalyst for a great victory. "Faith in the Lord's great power can be the catalyst for his saving intervention."
- Jonathan's statement, "Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few" (1 Samuel 14:6), encapsulates his trust in God's ability to deliver regardless of the odds.
- Jonathan's perception of the Lord already having "given them into the hand of Israel" shows great faith and certitude.
- **Saul's Dilution of Victory:** Despite Jonathan's success, Saul's actions, driven by a preoccupation with his own honor and a reliance on religious formalism, ultimately hinder the full potential of the victory. "A preoccupation with your own honor can dilute divine blessing."
- Saul's rash oath, forbidding the troops from eating, is criticized for creating distress and leading the people to sin by eating meat with the blood.
- Saul's willingness to sacrifice Jonathan to uphold his vow highlights his misplaced priorities and lack of understanding of God's will. The people intercede and rescue Jonathan.
- **Jonathan as a Foil:** Jonathan serves as a literary foil to Saul, highlighting Saul's deficiencies by demonstrating the qualities a good king should possess (faith, trust in God, concern for the people). Chisholm uses other examples of foils from the Bible to highlight the concept (Jonah and the Sailors, Orpah and Ruth).
- **Lessons for Today:** The lecture draws parallels between Saul's failings and potential pitfalls for believers today, emphasizing the importance of obedience to

God's word (scripture) and avoiding self-obsession and reliance on religious formalism. "The Lord expects his chosen rulers to obey his prophetic command. And for New Testament believers, the Lord's prophetic command is scripture."

Key Quotes:

- "You will experience security and blessing if you are obedient. Having a king is not a guarantee of security and blessing. You and your king need to obey the Lord."
- "God's people can forfeit their privilege and blessing by foolishly disobeying the Lord's Word."
- "You have done a foolish thing. You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you. If you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time."
- "Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few."
- "A preoccupation with your own honor can dilute divine blessing."
- "The Lord expects his chosen rulers to obey his prophetic command. And for New Testament believers, the Lord's prophetic command is scripture."

Implications:

This lecture provides a critical analysis of leadership, obedience, and the consequences of misplaced priorities. It underscores the importance of faith in God's power and the dangers of self-obsession and religious formalism. It challenges listeners to examine their own lives and ensure that they are aligned with God's will.

4. Study Guide: Chisholm, 1 & 2 Samuel, Session 9, 1 Sam. 13-14 – Saul Forfeits a Dynasty, Jonath’s Faith Ignites a Victory, Saul Dilutes a Victory

1 & 2 Samuel, Session 9: 1 Samuel 13-14 Study Guide

Quiz

Instructions: Answer the following questions in 2-3 sentences each.

1. What prompted Saul to offer the burnt offering in 1 Samuel 13?
2. According to Samuel, what did Saul forfeit by not keeping the Lord’s command in 1 Samuel 13?
3. What does it mean to be a man "after God's own heart"?
4. Describe Jonathan’s attitude toward the Lord in 1 Samuel 14:6.
5. What sign did Jonathan propose to his armor-bearer to determine if the Lord would act on their behalf?
6. How did the Philistines react when they saw Jonathan and his armor-bearer?
7. What critical error did the Israelites commit in 1 Samuel 14:32?
8. Why was Saul unable to inquire of God in 1 Samuel 14:37?
9. How did the Israelite army prevent Saul from executing Jonathan?
10. What was the result of Saul's rash vow in 1 Samuel 14?

Quiz Answer Key

1. Saul offered the burnt offering because his men were scattering, Samuel had not arrived at the set time, and the Philistines were assembling at Michmash. He was concerned about the dwindling size of his army and felt the need to seek the Lord's favor.
2. Samuel told Saul that he had forfeited the chance to have an enduring dynasty over Israel. Had Saul obeyed the Lord's command, his kingdom could have been established forever.

3. Being a man "after God's own heart" means that a person's mind is in tune with what God is doing and they are passionate about accomplishing the will of God. Their primary concern is obedience to God's commands and desires.
4. Jonathan's attitude was one of faith and trust in God's sovereignty. He recognized that nothing could hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few, and that God may act on behalf of them.
5. Jonathan proposed that if the Philistines said, "Come up to us," it would be a sign that the Lord had given them into their hands. They would interpret this as a challenge from God, signifying His support for their attack.
6. The Philistines mocked them, saying, "Look, the Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in," before challenging them to come up and fight. They underestimated Jonathan and his armor-bearer, and thought them weak.
7. The exhausted Israelites pounced on the plunder, butchered animals on the ground, and ate them together with the blood, which was a violation of Old Testament law. This was a result of Saul's rash vow preventing them from eating, which caused them to be exhausted.
8. Saul was unable to inquire of God because a sin had been committed, specifically the people had eaten meat that had blood in it.
9. The men defended Jonathan, refusing to let Saul execute the hero of the day who had brought about a great deliverance in Israel. They recognized God's hand in Jonathan's victory and would not allow Saul to kill him for it.
10. Saul's rash vow caused distress among the Israelite soldiers, depleted their strength, and ultimately led them to sin against the Lord by eating meat with blood still in it. This oath prevented them from eating when they needed strength, diluting the victory won by Jonathan.

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast Saul's actions and motivations in 1 Samuel 13 and 14 with those of Jonathan. How does this contrast highlight the concept of leadership?
2. Discuss the significance of Samuel's statement that God has sought out "a man after his own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14). What qualities would this man possess, and how does David eventually fulfill this role?
3. Analyze the role of obedience in 1 Samuel 13-14. How does disobedience lead to negative consequences, and how does obedience lead to victory?
4. Explore the theme of faith in 1 Samuel 13-14. How is faith portrayed as a catalyst for God's intervention, and how does a lack of faith hinder God's work?
5. Examine the concept of "forfeiting privilege and blessing" as illustrated in the lives of Eli and Saul. What lessons can be learned from their experiences, and how can these lessons be applied to contemporary life?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Dynasty:** A line of hereditary rulers of a country. In this context, it refers to Saul's potential for a lasting kingdom passed down through his descendants.
- **Burnt Offering:** A type of sacrifice in which an animal is completely burned as an act of worship and atonement.
- **Fellowship Offerings:** Also known as peace offerings; sacrifices presented to God, with a portion shared by the worshipper.
- **Prophet:** A person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God. Samuel functioned as a prophet, delivering God's messages to Saul.
- **Priest:** An ordained minister of the church; could offer sacrifices.
- **Ephod:** A linen garment worn by Israelite priests. The priest used it to inquire of the Lord.
- **Gilgal:** A significant location in early Israelite history and the location where Saul was to wait for Samuel.
- **Michmash:** A strategic location where the Philistines had gathered their forces, posing a threat to Israel.

- **Gibeah:** Saul's hometown and a significant location in the narrative.
- **Geva:** Location where Jonathan attacked a Philistine outpost. Possibly an alternate name for Gibeah.
- **Philistines:** A people group who were frequently at war with the Israelites during the time of Samuel and Saul.
- **Nagid:** Hebrew word that means "ruler." Samuel used this term as a reminder to Saul that the king serves God.
- **Armor-bearer:** An assistant to a warrior, responsible for carrying their armor and providing support in battle.
- **Outpost:** A military post stationed at a distance from the main army, often used for reconnaissance or defense.
- **Urim and Thummim:** Sacred lots or objects used by Israelite priests to discern God's will.
- **Foil:** A character who contrasts with another character (usually the protagonist) to highlight particular qualities of the other character.
- **Redeem:** To compensate for the faults or bad aspects of something.
- **Prophetic Perfect:** A verb form that describes a completed action from the speaker's perspective.

5. FAQs on Chisholm, 1 & 2 Samuel, Session 9, 1 Sam. 13-14 – Saul Forfeits a Dynasty, Jonath’s Faith Ignites a Victory, Saul Dilutes a Victory, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

Here is an 8-question FAQ based on the provided text:

FAQ: 1 Samuel 13-14

- **Why did Saul forfeit his dynasty in 1 Samuel 13?**
 - Saul forfeited his dynasty due to his disobedience to the Lord's commands. Specifically, he offered a burnt offering at Gilgal before Samuel's arrival, even though Samuel was the appointed priest to do so. This demonstrated a lack of faith in God's timing and a tendency to prioritize ritual over obedience. His concern over dwindling forces indicated that he believed that human armies, not the Lord, decide battles. He also overstepped his bounds by usurping the authority of the prophet Samuel. This is the opposite of a man after God's own heart who wants to accomplish God's will.
- **What is the significance of Jonathan's actions in 1 Samuel 14:1-23?**
 - Jonathan's attack on the Philistine outpost demonstrated great faith in the Lord's power. He understood that nothing could hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few. His willingness to act, even with a small force, ignited a major victory for Israel. He can be seen as an agent of Israel, understanding that the Lord wants to protect his people. This action stands in stark contrast to Saul's fear and hesitation, highlighting Jonathan's faith as the catalyst for God's intervention.
- **How does the text contrast Saul and Jonathan?**
 - The text presents Jonathan as a foil to Saul. Saul is portrayed as fearful, disobedient, and overly concerned with ritual and his own honor. In contrast, Jonathan is depicted as courageous, faithful, and focused on the Lord's will and the well-being of Israel. Jonathan embodies the qualities that Saul lacks and would have made a good king. Saul is motivated by a desire for revenge against the Philistines while Jonathan sees the battle in terms of the Lord saving Israel.

- **What does it mean to be "a man after God's own heart"?**
- Being "a man after God's own heart" means that someone's heart and mind are in tune with what God is doing, and they primarily want to accomplish His will. It means they have a strong desire to obey God in every way. The armor-bearer is described as being "with you according to your heart," meaning that his will aligns with Jonathan's. David is described in Acts 13:22 as someone who will do everything God wants him to do.
- **How did Saul "dilute" the victory in 1 Samuel 14:24-52?**
- Saul diluted the victory by imposing a rash oath on the Israelite army, forbidding them from eating until he had avenged himself on his enemies. This led to exhaustion and ultimately caused the soldiers to violate the law by eating meat with blood. It was also different from Jonathan who was willing to eat honey that would give him strength to pursue the Philistines. Saul's actions demonstrated a preoccupation with his own honor and a misplaced emphasis on religious formalism, inhibiting the work of God and jeopardizing his own son's life.
- **What is the significance of Saul's rash oath?**
- Saul's rash oath highlights his obsession with his own honor and revenge. The oath prevents the soldiers from eating, leading to exhaustion and a violation of dietary laws, ultimately hindering the full potential of the victory. It emphasizes that Saul's actions are often driven by self-centered motives rather than a genuine desire to serve God.
- **What does the story of Jephthah in Judges have to do with 1 Samuel 14?**
- The story of Jephthah is mentioned as a parallel to Saul's actions. Just as Jephthah tried to "bribe" God with a rash vow, Saul attempts to ensure victory through his curse, showcasing a similar lack of faith and reliance on self-centered actions. It represents Saul trying to ensure a victory by pronouncing a curse on his army if they don't follow through and defeat the Philistines, ultimately jeopardizing the life of his own son, Jonathan.

- **What are the major themes or lessons in 1 Samuel 13-14?**
- The major themes include the importance of obedience to God, the value of faith in God's power, the dangers of prioritizing ritual over genuine faith, and the negative consequences of self-centered actions. The story emphasizes that God's people can forfeit blessings through disobedience and that true victory comes through faith in the Lord, not through human strength or religious formalism. It also shows that a preoccupation with one's own honor can dilute divine blessing and that rash vows or oaths can inhibit the work of God.